

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF JASPER
MARCH 8, 2005**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Jasper, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor William J. Schmitt who presided called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor William J. Schmitt	present
Board member Victor J. Knies	absent
Board member Thomas R. Schmidt	present

Also present were Police Chief Richard Gunselman, City Engineer Chad Hurm, Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle, Personnel/Safety Director Charles Schneider, Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang, Building Commissioner David Seger, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein and Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm.

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm announced that a majority of the board members must be present for a quorum. Two of the three board members were present, which constitutes a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Schmitt invited all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The board members examined the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 22, 2005 and the memorandums of executive sessions held on February 17, 2005 and February 18, 2005. A **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Mayor Schmitt to approve the minutes and memorandums as presented. **Motion** carried 2-0.

REPLAT OF COLUMBUS CONTAINER INDUSTRIAL PARK

Kenny Brosmer, Brosmer Land Surveying, representing Michael Patel and Robert Haddad, requested approval for the replat of Columbus Container Industrial Park. Mr. Brosmer presented a map of the plat and pointed out the changes. There followed some discussion. Mr. Brosmer explained that there were construction plans for Lot # 2. Mayor Schmitt thanked Mr. Brosmer for taking the lead in regards to addressing storm water drainage on this and other projects.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve the Replat of Columbus Container Industrial Park as presented. **Motion** passed 2-0.

FIRE SCHOOL

Adam Vaal, representing the Dubois County Fire Trainers Association and as chairman of this year's Fire Training School in Jasper, requested permission to use the City owned vacant house (formerly the Bockelman House) on Mill Street for practical

fire training on Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13, 2005. During discussion, Mayor Schmitt advised Mr. Vaal to also present his request to the Jasper Park and Recreation Board, as the building falls under their jurisdiction. Thomas Schmidt asked if there was insurance on it and Personnel/Safety Director Charles Schneider affirmed that we had a certificate of insurance from them on file.

A **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Mayor Schmitt to approve the request of the Dubois County Fire Trainers Association to use the Bockelman house on Mill Street on March 12 and 13, 2005 for fire training. **Motion** passed 2-0.

MAURICE MELCHOIR TRUST

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang reported that the Fire Department had received a check in the amount of \$76,772.03 from the Maurice Melchoir Trust. He said a donation of \$36,750.00 had been received in May 2003, and this distribution brings the total amount from the Maurice Melchoir Trust to \$113,522.03. Hochgesang stated that the money would be applied to the new aerial truck, which should be delivered in June 2005. When the new truck arrives, an invitation would be extended to the Melchoir family to come to the fire station when a plaque that recognizes their generosity is placed on the truck. Mayor Schmitt praised the Melchoir family for their generous donation to the Jasper Fire Department and to the City of Jasper.

FIREFIGHTER PROMOTION

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang requested permission to promote Firefighter Phil Schmidt to the position of Lieutenant. The fire chief stated that Firefighter Schmidt had been with the department for 15 years and showed great leadership ability. The fire chief stated that Phil Schmidt would fill the position of Lt. Jim Wendholt, who had retired in January.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve the promotion of Firefighter Phil Schmidt to Lieutenant. **Motion** passed 2-0.

FEMA GRANT – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang reported that he had recently attended a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant writing seminar. He said he had learned at the seminar that the Jasper Fire Department had almost received a grant for replacing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) and that he had been advised to reapply for the same items. Hochgesang requested permission to apply for a 5% matching grant from FEMA for 28 SCBAs and 2 Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) kits. He said the amount of the products would be approximately \$109,060 and it would not cost the City more than \$5,740 for the match.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve the request of the fire department to apply for a FEMA grant for fire apparatuses. **Motion** passed 2-0.

REPLACEMENT FIREFIGHTERS

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang reported that three firefighters have left the department in the last three years and that the department presently has 36 firefighters, one of whom is in Iraq. Hochgesang requested starting the process of hiring three

replacement firefighters. During discussion, Hochgesang explained that the hiring process would be through the regular City of Jasper hiring procedure.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to allow the Fire Department to start the hiring process for three replacement volunteer firefighters and go through the Personnel Department as specified in the new ordinance. **Motion** passed 2-0.

CHALKWALK – 2005

Darla Blazey, representing the Jasper Arts Center, reminded the board that permission had been given to block off the Courthouse Square for Chalkwalk 2005 on May 7, 2005 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ms. Blazey requested additional time for set-up and tear-down which would begin at 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. respectively.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to grant the request of the Jasper Arts Center for additional set-up and tear-down time on May 7, 2005. **Motion** passed 2-0.

Ms. Blazey asked how to go about having no parking in the parking spaces around the square on Friday evening May 6th, after the stores close. Police Chief Richard Gunselman said the Strassenfest Committee places cardboard signs on traffic cones that specifies what time parking will be prohibited. Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle said he will take care of placing traffic cones with proper signage. Ms. Blazey said she would contact the landlord of the residential apartments in the area who are affected by this temporary no parking matter.

REPLACEMENT RECYCLING TRUCK

Street Commissioner Raymie Eckerle requested permission to seek bids for a replacement recycling truck and to open the bids at the March 22, 2005 Board of Public Works and Safety meeting. He stated that a \$50,000 grant has been received from Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to be applied towards the cost of the replacement truck and that the 1993 recycling truck would be traded-in. During discussion, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein explained that two notices need to be published in regards to the bid, and that fourteen days need to be given, therefore, the bids could not be opened until the April 12, 2005 meeting.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve the request of the Street Department to seek bids for a replacement recycling truck and that the bids would be opened at the April 12, 2005 Board of Public Works and Safety meeting. **Motion** passed 2-0.

RUBBISH TRUCK

Street Commissioner Raymie Eckerle requested permission to seek bids for a rubbish truck that has a compaction unit. He said currently a one ton truck serves as the rubbish truck. Eckerle presented pictures of the proposed new rubbish truck and noted that the truck offers features that would save collection and disposal time.

A **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Mayor Schmitt to approve the request of the Street Department to seek bids for a rubbish truck as presented. **Motion** passed 2-0.

MERIDIAN ROAD/3RD AVENUE TRAFFIC LIGHT

Street Commissioner Raymie Eckerle reported that the Street Department maintains the traffic signal at Meridian Road and 3rd Avenue and the bulbs have to be replaced once a year. Eckerle requested changing the bulbs in the traffic signal from incandescent to Light Emitting Diode (LED). Eckerle stated that the State of Indiana now uses LED bulbs in their traffic signals. Eckerle also presented a cost comparison sheet, which showed a five year savings of \$3,791.52 for using the LED bulbs. Eckerle explained that he contacted the State of Indiana for names of bulb suppliers and was given the names of two companies. The LED prices were as follows:

<u>Traffic Control Corp.</u>		<u>Traffic Signal Company</u>	
Reds	\$ 80.00 x 8 = \$ 640.00	Reds	\$ 65.00 x 8 = \$ 520.00
Amber	\$ 95.00 x 8 = \$ 760.00	Amber	\$ 70.00 x 8 = \$ 560.00
Green	\$167.00 x 8 = <u>\$1,336.00</u>	Green	\$115.00 x 8 = <u>\$ 920.00</u>
	\$2,736.00		\$2,000.00

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve the low quote of \$2,000, plus freight, from Traffic Signal Company for replacement of light bulbs for the traffic signal at Meridian Road and 3rd Avenue. **Motion** passed 2-0.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY DISASTER RELIEF - 2004

Personnel/Safety Director Charles Schneider presented a report on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster relief for 2004. Schneider noted that federal assistance had been received for the July wind storm but not for the December snow removal and that the total federal assistance for 2004 storm damages is \$75,208.00.

<u>July Wind Storm</u>	<u>December Snow Removal</u>
Claim filed: \$55,550.88	Claim filed: \$40,869.61
Federal Assistance: \$43,329.70	Federal Assistance: \$31,878.30

Mayor Schmitt stated that this was good news and thanked everyone for their efforts in gathering the information. He also requested Personnel/Safety Director Schneider present a copy of the report to each of the council members.

TACTICAL VESTS

Police Chief Richard Gunselman reported that at the February 8, 2005 Board of Public Works and Safety meeting, approval had been given to donate seven (7) outdated tactical vests to the Tell City Police Department. Gunselman said there are actually nine (9) old vests and asked to donate these vests to the Tell City Police Department. He said the Tell City Police Department had approved the Hold Harmless Indemnification Agreement.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to correct the number from seven to nine tactical vests and to donate the nine vests to the Tell City Police Department with a Hold Harmless Indemnification Agreement. **Motion** passed 2-0.

POLICE VEHICLE

Police Chief Richard Gunselman reported that funding for three replacement police vehicles had been placed in the 2005 budget, but that the Board had directed the police department only purchase two vehicles until the budget was finalized. Gunselman stated that as the budget has now been finalized, he would like to release the specifications and purchase another police car in addition to the two already ordered. The purchase will include the trade-in of the '95 Chevrolet Caprice that has over 90,000 miles on it.

On **motion** by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt, approval was given to the police department to purchase an additional car as budgeted for in 2005. **Motion** passed 2-0.

POLICE REPORTS

Police Chief Richard Gunselman presented to the board for its review the following reports.

Jasper Police Department February Activity Report
Jasper Police Department February Vehicle Maintenance Report

GREATER DOWNTOWN JASPER BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Mayor Schmitt read a letter that he had received from the Greater Downtown Jasper Business Association in which the group had requested permission to add additional greenery to the Downtown area. The letter explained that the group was looking into acquiring appropriate pots for ornamental trees and greenery that would be conducive and attractive to this area. During discussion, Police Chief Gunselman was concerned about the possible theft of the pots and Street Commissioner Eckerle was concerned about the type of trees because some trees attract birds and shed leaves which would then require maintenance and clean-up.

On **motion** by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt, preliminary approval was given to the Greater Downtown Jasper Business Association to move forward with their plans of placing flower pots or ornamental trees in the downtown area, provided drawings of their plans and the kind of plants to be used are first given to the Board of Public Works and Safety for final approval. **Motion** passed 2-0.

EASEMENTS

City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein presented the following easement for acceptance and approval:

Grant of Permanent Utility Easement

Max J. Verkamp and Jennifer L. Verkamp - Part of Lot 7 in Rolling Ridge Estates.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve and accept the easement, as listed above. **Motion** passed 2-0.

Right-of-Way Deed

David Wehr, Charles Hopf, and Larry Haas, d/b/a Village Square Apartments – Part of SE ¼ of NE ¼ of S22, T1S, R5W.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Schmitt and seconded by Thomas Schmidt to approve and accept the right-of-way deed, as listed above. **Motion** passed 2-0.

CLAIMS

Claims against the City from February 4, 2005 through March 3, 2005 were presented and examined by the board. Those claims found to be just, due, and owing were approved upon **motion** by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Mayor Schmitt. **Motion** carried 2-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, a **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Mayor Schmitt to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 2-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Mayor William J. Schmitt
Presiding Officer

Attest:

Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer
Cynthia Kluemper, Recording Secretary